

# **Hon. G. Burton Thompson's Report.**

The report of this gentleman, as chairman of the Select Committee on that part of the Governor's message relating to the tariff, is a curious affair. It is made up of round assertions, deceptive data, and allusions to politics in general. The only argument in the report, is an attempt to infer that the decrease in the price of several manufactured articles, arises from the protective duties imposed on articles of the same description imported from abroad. He leaves out of view the fact, that an inflated currency at one time greatly increased the price of many protected articles, and that a diminished currency decreased their price, all without regard to the rate of protection; and the further fact, that a general reduction in the market value of manufactured goods, has been produced by the vast improvements in machinery. He says wages have in some instances been increased, but forgets to mention that men have to a great extent taken the place of girls in the factories, and that the number of hands employed to do the same amount of work, is now less by one half than it was ten years ago, owing to the improvements in machinery. Equally blind does he seem to the fact, that the increased facilities for transportation, both by land and water, have, by diminishing freights and charges, lessened prices to the consumer; as well as to the fact repeated often enough by Adams, Clay, and other wily leaders, that these duties enter into the price of goods, and of consequence enhance their cost to the consumer. He appears to think that there would be an end to competition, if protection were withdrawn or reduced, whereas it will soon be seen, that the lower duties become, the greater will be the competition, and prices will fall accordingly; all of which will ensure to the benefit of the farmers of Indiana, and they will have reason to bless the day when the tariff was reduced to the revenue standard. We hope Mr. Thompson will live long enough to enjoy for many years, in common with his fellow citizens, the manifold blessings flowing from the reduced duties of our present revenue tariff. That the present liberal policy will remain, and become the settled policy of the country, we have every confidence, as well from the fact of its favorable bearing on the industry of our people, as from the circumstance, that the reduction of duties in this country, is simultaneous with the adoption of a similar liberal policy, by the most enlightened commercial powers of Europe. A reform so salutary and so general, cannot fail to command itself so strongly to the good sense, patriotism and interest of the world, as to ensure its continuance where it has commenced, and its adoption by all who witness its influence upon the commerce and industry of the world.

The report is not likely to do much mischief, and it contains some pleasant things which we cordially forgive, for the reason that they indicate that the writer's intentions were as harmless as his arguments.

## **Mr. Dowling's Report.**

The report of the minority of the committee, on the bill providing for a convention to revise the Constitution, is the most remarkable medley of contradictions and disjointed sophisms, we have had the pleasure of perusing for a long time. We suppose that the minority proceeded on the principle of a division of labor; and that being, as they intimate, pressed for time, each member sat down and wrote what he thought on the subject, and these detached parts were spliced together, to form what they have submitted as their report. It will readily be perceived, that to attempt an analysis of such an unique piece of patchwork, is no easy task. So we have found, after making the attempt in good earnest; and we shall therefore content ourselves with noticing a few points made by the committee, not in the hope of refuting their positions as a whole; but for though the document is brief, its assumptions are so various and conflicting, that it proves every thing or nothing, just according to the reader's fancy. In fact, the report frankly states, that the minority differed among themselves, as to the most important question under consideration; from which fact we are confirmed in the impression, that the document was framed with a view to give expression to all their various opinions, rather than with any regard to congruity or unity in its argument.—The minority admit that "the people are the true sources of all political power," and that the government is "founded upon their will;" but they also contend that the constitution cannot be changed by them, except in the manner provided in the Constitution; and in the same breath almost, they admit that if a majority of the voters had, at the last election, voted for a convention, it would have been competent for the legislature to have called it. They inform us, that they differ as to the question of expediency, and also as to the power of the people to revise the constitution at this time, even though a majority of the people had voted for it. Can such arguments need any further refutation than that which they furnish to themselves? "Who shall decide when doctors disagree?"—especially when, as in this case, they disagree, not merely with each other, but each one with himself! The mutual annihilation of the "Kilkenny cats," was mere kittens' play, to the self-slaughter perpetrated by this minority. We cannot find it in our hearts to add one blow to the self-inflictions of the authors of this report; and we therefore leave them to the tender mercies of an indulgent public.

—The law of 1841 (page 141) says, "that in the month of January, 1841, and every three years thereafter, the two houses of the General Assembly, shall choose by joint ballot, a Public Printer, to serve for three years, from and after the first day of August next, after each said election." The Revised Statutes of 1843, re-enacts that "there shall be elected triennially, counting from the month of January, 1841, by the General Assembly, on joint ballot, a State Printer, who shall serve for three years," &c. This law has subsequently only been so far changed as to require the election to be *vice versa*.

We take the above extracts from the "Journal" of Wednesday. The acts referred to are, no doubt, correctly quoted and it will be seen at once, that the State of 1843 has materially changed that of 1841, so far as regards the time prescribed for holding the election. The act of 1841 provided that the election should be held in the month of January, while that of 1843 prescribes that it shall be held triennially, counting from the month of January, 1841. Now as the last mentioned act repeals the other, its provisions must prevail, and if the argument of our correspondent, published a few days since, that in counting from a month we must count from the end of the month, be correct, it is plain, that under the present law, the election cannot be held until after the present month of January has expired.

We merely throw out these suggestions for the consideration of our contemporaries, who are, doubtless, anxious that the proper construction should be placed upon the law. We should be glad to have the benefit of their advice as the proper legal significance of the word "from," as it occurs in the above act, and, as an illustration, we would like them to inform us, if they should give their note payable twenty or thirty days from the month of January, 1847, at what time they would consider it to be due.

THE PRESIDENT.—A public meeting was held at Fayette, in Howard county, Missouri, on the 21st inst., at which the Democrats declared Col. Thomas H. Benton their first choice for President, and Silas Wright their second choice.

## **The News.**

We had an eastern mail last night,—the first for some days. We huddle the most important items together, as follows:

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29, 1846.

ALEXANDER BARROW, U. S. Senator from Louisiana, died suddenly in Baltimore, this morning, where he had gone some days since as the friend of G. Davis, in a contemplated duel between the latter gentleman and Mr. Bailey of Virginia.

Yours, E.

LOSS OF THE SOMERS.—Philadelphia, Dec. 29, 10 o'clock P. M.—We have intelligence from the South of the loss of the brig Somers. She was captured and sunk on the 8th inst., while sailing off Green Island, on the coast of Mexico. There were eighty persons on board, of whom thirty-nine are reported lost. Sixteen were drifted ashore near Vera Cruz, who were taken prisoners by the Mexicans.

Middleman Rogers and Dr. Wright were taken prisoners while reconnoitering the Mexican lines near Vera Cruz.

CONGRESS.—Mr. Haralson, of Georgia, had reported a bill increasing the regular army. The bill proposed the addition of one regiment of Dragoons and nine of Infantry. It is proposed that they serve five years or during the war with Mexico.

—The Franklin (Johnson county) Examiner represents that the damage done by the late flood, has been very great in that vicinity. Many bridges were carried away. We have no time for particulars.

It is rumored that the Ohio river at Cincinnati rose as high as Market street. The damage must have been incalculable all along the river.

## **From the Army.**

BRASOS SANTIAGO, Nov. 26, 1846.

I have a little news from Monterey, as late as the 20th of November. Two regiments of Indiana volunteers, the 2d and 3d, and Lieutenant Mackall's (Capt. Taylor's) battery had gone to Saltillo, to join Gen. Twiggs's division as on its march for Victoria.

Brig. Gen. Hamer died at Monterey a few days ago, of inflammation of the bowels.

Gen. Butler will remain in command at Monterey. Gen. Taylor was to move, in column, on the 8th, 9th, and 10th inst., for Victoria, with about 1500 men. Victoria is equidistant from Monterey and Tampico, and it was supposed that Gen. Taylor would march of place his headquarters.

No further demonstration would be made towards San Luis Potosi until further orders from our Government.

Gen. Taylor had imprisoned the Alcaldes of Monterey and his son, and several *valiente hombres*, for furnishing money and horses to deserters from the American army. Old Rough and Ready, it is said, had threatened to hang this dignitary and his accomplices.

Gen. Wool was at Paris, 100 miles north of Chihuahua, with 1000 men. Gen. Worth was at Saltillo, and will shortly have under his command 2000.—Colonel Riley was at Monte Morelos with about 1000 men. Gen. Pillow was to move to Victoria on the 14th.

Santa Anna had sent out a detachment of 2000 men to destroy the water tanks between Saltillo and San Luis Potosi.

## **Late from Mexico.**

The New York Tribune has advices from Vera Cruz as late as December 2. From that paper we make the following abstract:

The war engrosses public attention. All seem to agree that the last struggle must be at San Luis. Santa Anna was there with 25,000 men and 52 pieces of artillery. New troops were continually arriving. It is calculated that before Gen. Taylor can arrive, there will be 30,000 men at San Luis.

The papers speak in high terms of the discipline of the army.

At San Luis every thing in the shape of iron was being manufactured into weapons. 1000 women had come voluntarily to the camp to assist in making preparations.

Santa Anna had a grand review of the whole army on the 13th of November. So overpowered was he by the boundless enthusiasm which greeted him as he passed along the lines that his feelings overcame him, and the tears rolled down his swarthy cheeks, amid the prolonged huzzas of the various regiments, and cries of "Victory or Death!" "God and Liberty!" "Long live Santa Anna!" "We will beat the Yankee!" &c. &c.

For fear that San Luis may be taken they are fortifying the road to the capital.

The evacuation of Tampico is accounted for on the plea that the yellow fever would fight harder for them at that place than the troops could.

Accounts from Chihuahua confirm the news of the arrest of the traitors Goffin, Connelly and Francisco, and the confiscation of their property.

Meantime in the Cabinet at Mexico, Almonte has succeeded Tameriz. Almonte is the popular candidate for the Presidency. Santa Anna declines the nomination.

In the various departments arrangements have been made for sending the State governments to their former condition under the constitution of 1824.

The government of Yucatan has ratified the re-annexation of that State, and the adoption of the Constitution of 24.

The church has been put under contribution, and popular opinion upholds the levy, as the clergy are in favor of monarchy.

The amount of the loan is \$2,000,000. Montemore is going out of the country. The steamer Clyde by which this news was brought, carried out \$1,600,000.

The city of the Angels had been taken possession of without resistance.

Senor Argo has been elected Governor of the District of Mexico.

News was received at the English Consul's office in Vera Cruz on the 1st inst. from San Luis Potosi, that a brigade of about 1000 men from the American army had deserted with arms and baggage to the forces under Santa Anna.

CHAPMAN'S ROOSTER BEAT!—One of our little daughters has raised a *Crowder* from his chickenhood up to a full grown, saucy looking fellow. So completely puffed and trained is Tom, that he will crow at any time at the bidding of the little girl. And so docile is he, to her command, that he will lay in any position, on his side, back, or with his head on a pillow. But Tom has the spark of a General—he has had two or three fights, and has won every set, good sized fust, and has come off conqueror—and when his spunk is up, he frequently clears the yard of dogs, cats, and children. He visited our office to-day, mounted our editorial table, and took a view of Godey's Reprint of "The London World of Fashion" and our friend Pike's cut of a coon upon his back, without any solicitation on our part. But he kept up a continual crowing, that we were obliged to disengage him from his services, to get clear of his racket. He is a strong friend of the West, and no doubt will go in for a Federal President.—*Shelbyville Recorder*.

We were down at Shelbyville a short time ago, and we suppose our friend of the "Recorder" does not mean to convey any "innuendo" in the above!

TEA AND COFFEE DUTY.—Something has been said in relation to the levy of a small duty upon tea and coffee, for the purpose of supporting the war expenses; and the proposition has been opposed by some. The "protectionists" desire duties to be laid on such articles as will give them an advantage in the increased price of the home article as well as the foreign one. On this subject the Journal of Commerce remarks:

"The Western and Southern people cannot always remain in so great an error as to suppose a duty on tea and coffee more burdensome than on sugar. They must see by this time that they have for years been paying five millions of dollars annually into the pockets of the Louisiana sugar planters, and that all duties imposed on merchandise such as is produced within the country, are much more burdensome than duties on tea and coffee, because the increased price on the latter articles goes all of it into the public treasury while as to articles partly produced and partly imported, the price of the whole is increased, and only the increase on the imported portion goes to the treasury."

There can be no doubt about the truth of this.

## **The Banda Oriental.**

The New Orleans Picayune has a long editorial on this subject, in which it insists that there was a serious movement on foot to place a French Prince on a Mexican throne. The policy of Louis Philippe, says the *St. Louis Union*, has been to cultivate peace and rely upon diplomacy. He knows that a war in which France is involved, would probably lead to some new coalition against his dynasty. Hence, while restraining the warlike propensities of the French, he succeeded in allaying the suspicions of other powers as to his diplomatic movements. He has thus been able to place a member of his House on the Belgian throne, and one son near the throne of Brazil, and another near that of Spain: The Spanish marriage has aroused Europe, and the failure of Mr. Hood's mission to Buenos Ayres may lead to further developments. The *Picayune* says:

"Amongst the projects entertained in Europe of pacifying South America, that of bringing the country once more under the colonial yoke of Spain has been seriously mooted. This scheme will scarcely be realized in our day; but another—that of extending the Brazilian Empire over the adjacent Republics—is of more probable success. The wars of the Banda Oriental have given the French and English Governments an excuse for interfering in the affairs of La Plata. A blockade of the ports of Buenos Ayres has been enforced by the combined fleets of the two interfering powers, on the pretence of pacification, and the war has been prolonged by the assistance thus given to Montevideo, whose authorities are more under the influence of monarchial principles than either President Rosas or the people of Buenos Ayres. The British Government has made an effort to bring about an accommodation of this state of affairs, and to this end Mr. Hood was despatched from England with powers to arrange a pacification. Articles of peace were drawn up, which were satisfactory to the belligerent powers, Rosas and Oribe agreeing to the terms; but just as Mr. Hood's mission was on the eve of a favorable termination, Baron Demaffis, the French Minister, interfered at the suggestion, it was thought, of Brazil, and broke up the negotiations. The Banda Oriental is a ravaged by war—for what purpose may shortly appear.

"The recent arrival—the Isabella Hyne—from Rio, brings the intelligence that Brazil had joined Paraguay against Rosas, and that an invasion of Buenos Ayres was soon to take place. This information confirms the suspicion that the French Ambassador thwarted the objects of Mr. Hood's mission at the instance and for the advantage of Brazil—the reduction of a portion, if not the whole, of the Banda Oriental under the yoke of Monarchy being the end in view.

"In this connection, the schemes of Louis Philippe have an important bearing. One of his sons, the Prince de Joinville, has been married to the daughter of Emperor of Brazil, whilst another is wedded to the Infanta of Spain; so that in the event of the Republic of La Plata being reduced to vassalage under the old colonial system, or overrun by Brazil, he has a boy in the way of promotion for either issue. It is quite natural that the Emperor of Brazil should thirst for a conquest of the La Plata, shut out as his dominions are from the Atlantic Ocean by a tier of Republics extending from the Equator to Patagonia. Nor is it a violent presumption to imagine that Louis Philippe, baffled in his Mexican schemes, has got a liquorish tooth for the Argentine Republics, whose wars have rendered them less difficult of digestion. The development of the purposes of the French Ambassador and the Emperor of Brazil may not appear, but to our mind they betoken an onslaught upon the liberties of South America, from which Louis Philippe expects to derive an independent throne for one or more of his children. There will be trouble amongst the beasts of the field and birds of the air, when it comes to pass that the Eagle and the Lion go a hunting together—a sign which betokens the subjugation of too many French princes on American thrones would be apt to bring about.

## **The Whigs and the War.**

The Pittsburgh Morning Post says, and we think with justice, that the game the federalists are now playing is this—they first endeavor to render the war with Mexico as odious as possible, then charge that it was commenced by the President, and upon the Executive must rest all that odium. Their policy then is to make the war a political question, and nominate a candidate for the Presidency in 1848, who will ride into office on the war hobby! Very well—let them make all the capital they can out of the war, we have no objections. We believe the war with Mexico will be as popular as the war of 1812, and those who are now opposing it will cover themselves with infamy and disgrace. The federalists oppose the late war, and charged Mr. Madison with being the originator of it. The Salem (Mass.) Gazette, a blue-light federal sheet, spoke as follows in reference to the late war with England:

"At the door of James Madison and his accomplices lies the blood of our butchered countrymen."

This same Salem Gazette is now a good and true Whig (!) paper, and is abusing President Polk in like language. The Boston Atlas, another federal sheet, on the 5th inst. spoke of the war with Mexico thus:

"All the wrong of the war—all the evil of it—all the sorrow it may occasion, belongs to Mr. Polk."

The National Intelligencer, the federal organ at Washington, declares that the success of our army in Mexico is "rapine," and the army "lawless men." The Rev. Dr. Putnam, of Boston, rose up in the pulpit and spoke of our brave volunteers thus:

"I dare not wish them victory, for that would be taking for granted that ours is the right side."

And again said this Rev. clergy:

"I suppose it is no breach of allegiance to advise any of our population (especially the converted ones) to leave their homes, to stay at home."

Such sentiments as these, if uttered in any other country but the United States, would cause their author to be arrested and tried as a traitor. But it has become so common for the federal party to oppose the government of their country when engaged in a war with foreign powers, that we cannot reasonably look for anything else. We have the proud satisfaction of knowing that in every instance when they arrayed themselves against their country, they have been most signally overthrown. They will be overthrown again—the war will be popular—the President will be sustained—and our beloved country will come out of the contest covered with victory and glory!

Mr. Webster contended in his long speech at the Philadelphia dinner, that the present administration has departed from the principles of ANDREW JACKSON. He then proceeds as follows:

"It seems rather too light a question to ask whether 'Young Hickory' has proved himself like Old Hickory, but the great question put to the people has been this, whether his principles and motives are or are not an entire departure from the measures and principles of ANDREW JACKSON. I do not mean to be understood as avowing myself an advocate of the policy of President JACKSON. He was a man of sense and a man of strong character. I believe that his aims and intentions were all for the happiness and glory of the country. I thought, to be sure, that to extend and perfect that policy he did exercise a little more power than he constitutionally was in possession of, but candor compels me to say that I ever thought he meant well; and while, to a certain extent, he sought his own glory and renown, that he connected the glory and renown of his country with it."

This is a strange paragraph coming from Mr. WEBSTER. He makes the measures and principles of Gen. JACKSON the standard by which the country tries public servants at the present day, and thus pays a stronger tribute of praise to the Old Hero whom he incessantly vilified, when living, than any studied eulogium could give. Even Mr. W. has at length learned how strong a hold the memory of Gen. JACKSON has upon the American people, and ventures to speak of him in a strain very different from that used during the Hero's life.

The particular object of Mr. W. however, was obviously to create dissensions among Democrats, by creating the belief that the JACKSON policy is not now followed at Washington.—*St. Louis Union*.

## **The Mexican War.**

The following speculations are made by the intelligent Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger:

As to the war itself, it is still believed by some, and I must confess I am of the number, that it will soon drive us to a position other than the one, however, and among them, if I mistake not, even some very prominent members of the Cabinet, who apprehend a prolongation of difficulties. Under these circumstances it becomes the administration to prosecute the war with vigor; and this, accordingly, it is resolved to do.

As to the news telegraphed a day or two ago, from the Southern papers, that the whole army expects to join Gen. Scott at Tampico, I do not believe a word of it. I think it much more likely that Gen. Scott and Taylor have given each other a rendezvous at San Luis Potosi. The Rio Grande must necessarily remain the basis of the operations of our army, and the means of securing the success of whatever expedition may be ordered, either down the coast or on the road to the capital. The northern slope of the Sierra Madre must eventually be ours, and the mountains, not the river must form the future frontier of the two countries. Rivers are a means of communication, not of separating nations. Mountains perform the latter office much better, and may be easily fortified. To expose them, would be surrendering all the advantage thus far obtained by the force of our arms.

The taking of the capital, on which so much stress is laid by the press, is no guarantee whatever of a speedy peace. The Spaniards held the capital ever so long, and marched uninterruptedly from the Atlantic to the Pacific, without subduing the country; simply drove us to a position of operation, and then, by the Mexicans, from which they might at any time throw succor to any point threatened by the enemy.

The basis of operation, conquered by our troops on the Rio Grande, constitutes the difference between our invasion of Mexico and that of the Spaniards; and it is not likely that we will jeopardize so important an advantage.

Some there are who anticipate a guerilla warfare on the part of the Mexicans; but I doubt much whether any such can be organized. With all the incessant revolutions of Mexico, the spirit of centralization has made greater progress in that country than in Spain, composed originally of many different kingdoms, accustomed to many different governments, and preserving their national peculiarities. The wealth and influence of Cadiz, Barcelona, Seville, &c., date far back than the kingdom of Spain, for these cities were in part capitals of powerful kingdoms, at the time that Madrid was a barren heath. Madrid never was the capital of Spain in the sense that Paris is the capital of France, or London that of commercial England. It was merely the residence of the Royal family and the Court, for it possesses, like our own city of Washington, very few elements of wealth and power. The manners of the capital are not imitated in the different provinces of Spain, and the provinces are jealous of maintaining their own—even as regards the mode of dress.

All this is different in Mexico, which was settled and improved by a central power, emanating from the capital, and we have seen, accordingly, that a revolution in the city of Mexico has always decided the fate of the whole country, while all partial enterprises in the provinces, unless impulsive was quickly communicated to the capital, have utterly failed. A guerilla warfare, therefore, need not be anticipated by our troops, except, perhaps, in the immediate neighborhood of the city of Mexico. The distant provinces are not organized for the purpose. But what, after all is a guerilla warfare, but a policy of desecration of the country?—a system of defence, depending upon a variety of strong points, in the form of provincial juntas, without a central organization! The decomposition of the national defence of a country into a guerilla warfare, amounts, in fact, to its dismemberment, and this would be the case with Mexico were she to attempt anything of the kind. All the provinces of Mexico are now driven to the French out of the country had the central movement not been directed and fought by the Englishmen, under the Duke of Wellington.

Should we take Vera Cruz and march upon Mexico, and the country should still hold out, then we need only put the capital and all the populous towns very closely and not them in its walls. In the event of our base line military operations on the Rio Grande, forty it, and invite Mexico, if she be satisfied with this mode of making ourselves paid for the expense of the war, to come and take them. In this way the war must finally come to a close, unless Mexico, by fresh provocation, induces our border population (not our regular troops) to proceed further on a venture.

All this may not suit the ideas of professors and lawyers, but international law is not a canon of the understanding, but a case based upon history, grown through ages by historical decisions, and reflecting the historical progress of the world. The principle runs through all the laws of nature, that a thing ceases to exist when it is no longer capable by its own force, to satisfy the law of its existence, and the same applies to nations. We do not mean to make of Mexico another oriental question, and suffer an empire like Turkey to be propped up on our frontiers by foreign powers because it suits their ideas of equilibrium. We have not suffered Texas—the American Egypt—when reclaimed by civilization, through Houston, our ambassador at Mexico, to rob the world of a barbarian, like Syria, to suit the policy of European powers, and we must not allow a semi-barbarian nation to trouble us on our borders and invoke continual aid of Europe. We are the heirs of Mexico as Russia is that of Turkey.

One of the greatest thinkers that ever lived, (and he lived in a Republic too)—Spinoza—after searching his mind in every direction, and running over all the works of jurisprudence, published in his time, came to but one conclusion—"Ubi vis, ibi jus," (where there is power, there is right). Only the mode of exercising that right is dictated by civilization. There is no other law now governing the nations of Europe; there never has been any other.

Our conduct towards Mexico is dictated by moral and political considerations, and the policy reconciles the population (especially the converted ones) to our laws and institutions. And this is as much a means of self-defence as one of aggression against a semi-barbarian foe. If Napoleon had succeeded in civilizing Russia, it would have availed him more than five hundred thousand troops; for the mere fact would have created for him an advanced post in St. Petersburg.

## **The President and Santa Anna.**

Whig orators and editors have had a good deal to say about President Polk's allowing Santa Anna to return from Havana to Mexico. There is more sense in the following arguments of the Baltimore Sun than in all the humbugs which have been uttered on the subject:

"Supposing the President had given Commodore Comdr. orders to make Santa Anna prisoner, and the war, as is most probable, had continued under the military rule of Parades, would not the President have been accused of having united the enemies by keeping away from them the only instrument of dissent and discord? Would he not have been charged with giving 'aid and comfort to the Mexicans?' Would he not have been ridiculed for having suffered so eminent a person as Santa Anna to return to his country, and to be a prisoner of war, or a Mexican, clothed with authority at the time of his leaving the Havana? How would that act have told in Europe? And what would England have said if we had taken the private citizen, Santa Anna, from on board of one of her steamers, and under the protection of her own flag? These things are worthy of consideration in these times."

It was never pretended by any European jurist, that England was justified in retaining the private citizen, Napoleon Bonaparte, at the island of St. Helena; and she herself excused the infamous act only with reasons of State and the principle of self-preservation; but what good reason could we have furnished for having seized upon the cock-fighting President, and kept him as a hostage? Would not the whole civilized world have cried out at such a proceeding? And was it worth while, on our part, to risk sight to do a thing, the policy of which was in itself doubtful?

## **Lieutenant Maynard.**

On the occasion of the late terrible wreck of the steamboat Atlantic, in Long Island Sound, Lieut. MAYNARD, of the Navy, displayed great coolness, courage, and self-devotion, in his endeavors to aid and rescue the unfortunate passengers, so many of whom met an untimely fate. Speaking of his noble conduct, the Journal of Commerce says:

From a boy, he has been accustomed to exposure at sea, and is familiar with its perils. Characterized by cool self-possession, decision, strength and self-endurance, and by the nobler qualities of generosity and heroism, who could have been selected better fitted for the emergencies of such a dread occasion!

When Lieut. M. ascertained that the Atlantic was drifting from her moorings, on Thursday forenoon, his practiced eye discovered the certainty of a wreck, and he set about the work, which few seemed to know how to perform, preparing means of escape from destruction. His first attention, with that of Dr. Hassler, also of the Navy, was turned to the helpless women and children. With the aid of the officers of the army on board, he wrenched the doors from the state rooms, prepared them properly for floats, and distributed them among the objects of his care. At one time, when he supported the women and children, and an old man (Walton) who was too infirm to help himself, upon the floats, ready for the anticipated concussion. The females and children came to regard him as their protector, and to each he gave directions as to their conduct in particular emergencies.

For the sake of protection from cold and bruises while in the water he tied strips of blanket about the head, keeping them in place by linen bandages.—While engaged in this service, a little child of 18 months in the arms of its mother, patted him on the cheek, using the only word its infant lips could utter, "Papa, papa!" The father and the sailor's heart bounded off to his only child, of the same age, at Washington; and the unspeakable comfort of the mother, he promised to her child, and bear it to its father at Newark, N. J. He placed pieces of blanket around the little body, with long ends, intending to tie them around his breast, with the child upon his back, and thus, if saved himself, redeem his pledge to the agonized, but now comforted woman.—The sudden parting of the ladies' cabin at the instant of the boat's striking, and the destruction of all within it, defeated his noble purpose, and mother and child found a watery grave.

When the vessel struck, Lieut. M. was sitting near the ladies' cabin with his fellow officers; his thoughts upon the child he had vowed to save. The keel of the boat resting on the rocks, the deck careened at a sharp angle, seaward, and the wave that stranded her, in its ebb swept Dr. Hassler and Lieut. Norton into the ocean. Lieut. M. sprang to the door of the ladies' cabin, but felt the cabin itself giving way, and as he dashed himself from it to a more secure position on the sloping and slippery deck, it was swept against the rocks, with every soul it contained. With difficulty he gained a position on the guard near the wheelhouse, and leaped thence into the water, and swam to the rocky shore. But two had preceded him. This was the scene of his heroic efforts. Lieut. M., with WILLIAM EDWARDS, and they alone, remained in the water more than two hours, aiding and rescuing one person after another, until all but two, (who would not leap from the wreck,) were saved.—And for three fourths of an hour he remained endeavoring by every means to induce them to escape from freezing by jumping into the sea, with the assurance that the waves would crush them. When the light dawned, he left the wreck, and in company with Mr. Tarbox, whom he found on the rocks, sympathizing with his efforts, proceeded towards Mr. Winthrop's house, on the (Fisher's) Island. On their way they found the engineer of the boat, blind and nearly frozen, muttering unintelligibly. Lieut. M., though immersed for two hours, proposed to stay by the poor man, while his companion should seek help at the house of the man being too heavy for him to carry. Fearing at last that Mr. T. had lost his way, he piled up rocks for land marks, and ran to the house, which Mr. T. had reached before him. They returned and the man was saved.

Two little circumstances are worth noticing. Lieut. M. had taken the precaution to roll his bank notes very closely and put them in his waistcoat. In consequence of his long stay in the water, those bills became worthless pulp—not a word could be deciphered of the mass, and not a dollar recovered. And his limbs bear the marks of bruises from the floating timbers which were constantly tossed against him.—When he at last reached the house, what was the result of the whole? He was a man, and he was a hero! He could not gain a place at the fire to dry his frozen feet, and that he was rudely repulsed by one individual, to whom he turned with the inquiry, "Are you not the man I pulled out of the water this morning?" "No," was the gruff reply. "Yes, sir," said M., "I remember, you, and he assured it is the poor man, while his companion should seek help at the house of the man being too heavy for him to carry. Fearing at last that Mr. T. had lost his way, he piled up rocks for land marks, and ran to the house, which Mr. T. had reached before him. They returned and the man was saved.

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